

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

SECSTATE WASHDC 1042

UNCLAS TOKYO 7279

USIAC

STATE FOR CU

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: STAG LINDA BROWN

REF: SINGAPORE 2656

1. TALKING POINTS FOR "PERSPECTIVES ON THE AMERICAN FAMILY:
CONTINUITY AND STRENGTH"

A. WRITERS ROUTINELY PICTURE AMERICAN FAMILY
IN A STATE OF DECLINE.

B. BUT RECONSTRUCTING THE REALITY OF FAMILY LIFE
IS COMPLEX PROCESS. THERE ARE PROBLEMS OF
DEFINITION AND CULTURAL PERCEPTIONS.

C. NEW RESEARCH BY HISTORIANS AND INTERDISCIPLINARY
SCHOLARS HAVE BEGUN TO CORRECT MAJOR MISCONCEP-
TIONS.

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1. THERE IS NO "GOLDEN AGE" OF THE EXTENDED
FAMILY IN OUR PAST.

2. NUCLEAR HOUSEHOLD HAS BEEN FUNDAMENTAL FORM

OF THE FAMILY SINCE OUR NATION'S BEGINNINGS.

D. SOCIAL INDICATORS SHOULD BE ANALYZED IN CONTEXT OF CULTURE. FOR EXAMPLE, DO HIGH DIVORCE RATES SUGGEST SOCIAL BREAKDOWN OR DO THEY REFLECT AMERICANS' HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF MARRIAGE?

E. KEY FACTOR IN WOMEN'S LIBERATION IS CHANGING DEMOGRAPHY--FEWER CHILDREN AND LONGER LIFE SPAN MEANS CHILD-REARING CANNOT BE SOLE CENTER OF WOMAN'S LIFE. HENCE, NEW AND EXPANDED ROLES.

F. CHANGES IN AMERICAN FAMILY ARE NECESSARY MODIFICATIONS FOR CONTINUED STRENGTH AND VIABILITY.

2. BROWN HAS PREPARED ENGLISH PRESENTATION OF ABOVE LECTURE AND OF HER LECTURES ON URBANIZATION AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS. EXPERIENCE IN JAPAN HAS SHOWN US SHE MUST SUBSTANTIALLY SHORTEN HER LECTURES TO INCLUDE ONLY KEY POINTS WHEN HER PRESENTATIONS ARE CONSECUTIVELY TRANSLATED. ALL POST ARE REQUESTED TO ADVISE IMMEDIATELY IF ANY OF HER PROGRAMS WILL EMPLOY CONSECUTIVE TRANSLATION. ALSO SPECIFY LECTURE TOPIC(S) SO THAT SHE CAN START CONDENSING THEM IF NECESSARY.
MILLER

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